

NOV 24 1954

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-000

FOIAb3b

## Parents Seek Lane's Aid to Free Fecteau

The parents of Richard G. Fecteau, 27, of Lynn, who yesterday learned he had been sentenced to 20 years in jail for "spying" on the Chinese Reds, expressed fear and joy today as they sought Congressional aid to gain his freedom.

Mrs. Philip Fecteau, mother of the former Boston University football player, stated "All I hope now is that he is not being tortured by the Chinese."

"I'm so happy to know he is alive," she said, revealing she never believed him dead as the Defense Department reported last December.

She and her husband, the latter a General Electric Company worker, have conferred with Congressman Thomas Lane of Lawrence as to what steps can be taken to effect the Army civilian worker's release from prison.

They also intend writing to Senators Saltonstall and Kennedy seeking further information about their son's condition.

Fecteau, along with another New

CPYRGHT

Englander, John T. Downey, 24, of New Britain, Conn., were named over Radio Peiping yesterday as among the 13 Americans recently sentenced by a Red Chinese military court.

They were reported "missing" after their military plane disappeared on a routine flight from Seoul to Japan in December, 1952.

Downey's mother, Mary, also expressed joy and alarm when she realized the son she had thought dead for the past year was actually serving a life sentence.

She declared she now fears she will never see her son again and mentioned her fear "these boys will be crucified."

Fecteau, who has a twin brother, is the father of twin daughters. His second wife whom he married shortly before going overseas was fatally burned a year ago.

CPYRGHT